

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS : Steven P. HERGOTT, David S. HAMBLIN, and
Michael J. HARDY
SERIAL NO. : 10/659,409
FILED : September 10, 2003
TITLE : METHOD AND MEANS FOR STUFFING NATURAL CASINGS
WITH SAUSAGE EMULSION
Group/A.U. : 3643
Examiner :
Conf. No. : 4641
Docket No. : P06668US0-169F

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Attached are Forms PTO/SB/08A and 8B (formerly PTO-1449)
listing the relevant art known to applicant herein. Copies of
the listed foreign references are enclosed. However, copies
of the U.S. cited references are not enclosed.

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other
information, of which they are aware that they believe may be
material to the examination of this application, and in
respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose. Legible
copies of all items listed in Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B
(formerly Form PTO-1449) accompany this information statement.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. § 1.8(A))

I hereby certify that this document and the documents referred to as enclose
therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class
mail addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box
1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 17th day of December 2003.

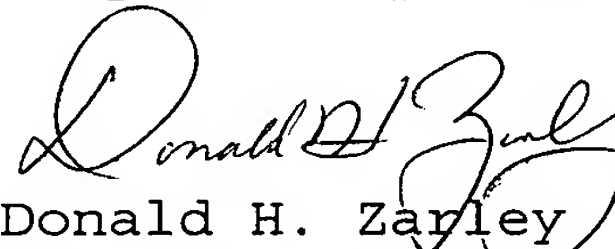
Donald H. Zarley

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. §197(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

No fees or extensions of time are believed to be due in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement; however, consider this a request for any fees inadvertently omitted, and charge any additional fees to Deposit Account 50-2098.

Respectfully submitted,



Donald H. Zarley
Reg. No. 18,543
ZARLEY LAW FIRM P.L.C.
Capital Square
400 Locust Street, Suite 200
Des Moines, IA 50309-2350
Phone No. (515) 558-0200
FAX No. (515) 558-7790

Attorneys of Record
Customer No. 34082

DHZ/kc

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	10/659,409
				Filing Date	September 10, 2003
				First Named Inventor	HERGOTT, et al.
				Art Unit	3643
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	OF	2	Attorney Docket Number	P06668US0-169F

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.(1)	Document Number Number- Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	990,547	04-25-1911	E. C. GUNUSKEY	
	2	3,952,370	04-27-1976	GREIDER	
	3	4,202,075	05-13-1980	MICHEL, et al.	
	4	4,683,617	08-04-1987	RAUDYS	
	5	3,805,329	04-23-1974	KOLLROSS	
	6	4,112,546	09-12-1978	MULLER	
	7	6,139,416	10-31-2000	TOEPFER	
	8	3,480,449	11-1969	SUMPTION	
	9	4,438,545	03-1984	KUPCIKEVICIUS, et al.	
	10	4,489,460	12-1984	NAUSEDAS, Joseph A.	
	11	4,991,260	01-1991	NAUSSEDAS, Joseph A.	
	12	5,354,228	10-1994	SMITH, et al.	
	13	6,066,035	05-2000	HERGOTT, et al.	
	14	5,399,213	03-1995	OXLEY, Jeffery A.	
	15	4,580,316	04-1986	GUNTER, KOLLROSS	
	16	RE30,390	09-1980	KUPCIKEVICIUS, et al.	
	17	4,257,146	03-1981	KARP, Joseph G.	
	18	5,743,792	04-1998	HANTEN, et al.	
	19	5,147,239	09-1992	STAUDENRAUSCH, Georg	
	20	4,970,758	11-1990	NAPLES, et al.	
	21	5,842,914	12-1998	VERMEER, et al.	
	22	6,056,635	05-2000	VERMEER, et al.	
	23	6,050,888	04-18-2000	NAKAMURA, et al.	
	24	6,585,580	07-01-2003	HERGOTT, et al.	
	25	6,659,853	12-09-2003	HERGOTT, et al.	
	26	6,659,854	12-09-2003	HERGOTT, et al.	
	27	6,572,464	06-03-2003	HERGOTT, et al.	
	28	2,568,491	09-1951	EDWARDS	
	29	4,649,602	03-1987	KUPCIKEVICIUS, VYTAUTAS	
	30	3,404,430	10-1968	KIELSMEIER, et al.	
	31	3,826,852	07-1974	LEVACO, et al.	
	32	4,768,261	09-1988	NAKAMURA	
	33	4,525,895	07-1985	RAUDYS	
	34	6,066,036	05-2000	CAROLLO	
	35	5,046,219	09-1991	STANLEY	
	36	4,893,377	01-1990	EVANS, et al.	
	37	4,642,848	02-1987	KOLLROSS, GUNTER	
	38	4,593,433	06-1986	NAUSEDAS, Joseph A.	
	39	4,437,209	03-1984	DURVON, Herve	
	40	4,434,527	03-1984	STAUDENRAUSCH, et al.	

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)					
				Application Number	10/659,409
				Filing Date	September 10, 2003
				First Named Inventor	HERGOTT, et al.
				Art Unit	3643
Examiner Name					
Attorney Docket Number	P06668US0-169F				
Sheet	2	OF	2		

	41	3,964,236	06-1976	SMITH, David W.	
	42	3,150,410	09-1964	WASHBURN	
	43	5,092,814	03-1992	KASAI, et al.	
	44	3,672,001	06-1972	GREIDER, Charles Austin	
	45	5,297,983	03-1994	MUELLER, et al.	
	46	5,813,906	09-1998	PHILLIPS, Robert Wright	
	47	5,352,151	10-1994	PIEREDER, Ludwig	
	48	6,524,177	02-2003	BOLZACCHINI, Giovanni	
	49	5,830,050	11-1998	NAKAMURA, et al.	
	50	5,273,482	12-1993	BECKMAN, et al.	
	51	3,805,480	04-1974	CHERIO, et al.	
	52	3,253,297	05-1966	NUCKLES	
	53	3,195,176	07-1965	WASHBURN	
	54	4,437,209	03-1984	DUROYON, Herve	
	55	1,395,967	11-1921	MERLI, et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.(1)	Foreign Patent Document Country Code(3)-Number(4) -Kind Code(5) (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear.	T(6)
	1	DE 4232759	03-31-1994	UHL MARKUS		
	2	DE 1136604	09-13-1962	VEMAG Verdener Masch App		
	3	FR 2780246	12-31-1999	NIJAL		
	4	EP0379123	07-25-1990	NAUSEDAS		
	5	DE10001423A1	01-16-2000	VEMAG		
	6	DE29819328U1	10-29-1998	HEINRICH FREY MASCHINENBAU		
	7					
	8					
	9					

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

(1) Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). (2) See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. (3) Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3.) (4) For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. (5) Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard St. 16 if possible. (6) Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.